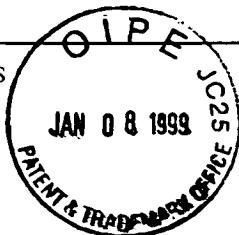


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CRAINE Associates inc.

PATENTS, TRADEMARKS & COPYRIGHTS



January 4, 1999

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COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington DC 20231

RE: Utility Patent Application Filing Fee
Serial No.: 09/167,090
Applicant: Mark Oblack
Filing Date: 10/5/98
Our File No.: OBLM 101

Dear Sir/Madam:

The above-referenced Application was filed on October 5, 1998. A check in the amount of \$305.00 was submitted with the Application. On November 3, 1998 we received a "NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION" claiming that the filing fee was underpaid by \$90.00. Since the Application was filed on October 5, 1998, no surcharge was required which was confirmed by the "Surcharge Box" not being checked on the NOTICE. On November 10, 1998, a check for \$90.00 was submitted. On December 10, 1998, the "NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE RESPONSE" was mailed claiming a surcharge of \$65.00 due. It is our understanding that a Surcharge would not be required for Utility Patent Applications filed between October 5 and October 11, 1998 in which the full \$390.00 was not submitted.

On December 17, 1998, I telephoned the Initial Patent Examination Division of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and spoke with a representative and explain the situation. The representative agreed that no surcharge should be assessed. She informed me that she would investigate the matter and contact us if this was incorrect. We have not heard or received anything from the representative. Please remove this charge and send confirmation that the filing fee has been paid in full.

Yours truly,

CRAINE ASSOCIATES, INC.

Dean A. Craine

DAC/lc

Enclosure

C:\WPWIN\clients\OBLM\101\filing fee diff.ltr.wpd



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARK
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO./TITLE

09/167,090 10/05/98 OBLACK

M OBLM-101

0212/1210

GRAINE ASSOCIATES INC
400 112TH AVENUE NE
SUITE 380
BELLEVUE WA 98004

NOT ASSIGNED

DATE MAILED:
3711

NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY
(*Filing Date Granted*)

12/10/98

The reply filed on 11-13-98 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed on _____ has been entered into the application. The reply, however, is incomplete for the following reason(s).

- 1. The filing fee required by the Notice has not been received. The amount of \$ _____ is due.
- 2. The surcharge of \$ 65.00 has not been received.
- 3. The oath or declaration for this nonprovisional application has not been received.
- 4. The oath or declaration for this nonprovisional application is not executed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.64(a) because:
 - a. The inventor's signature is missing
 - b. The signature is missing for inventor(s).
- 5. The cover sheet (37 CFR 1.151(c)(1)) for this provisional application has not been received.
- 6. The reply does not include _____

as required by this Notice.

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent **ABANDONMENT** of the above-identified application.

The period for reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain an EXTENSION OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) by filing a petition accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

Direct the reply and any questions about this notice to "Attention: Box Missing Parts."

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE